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TURKEY.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1887

ON THE

TRADE OF JEDDAH.

REFERENCE TO PREVIOUS REPORT, Annual Series No. 81.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
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TURKEY.

JEDDAH.

Consul Jago to the Marquis of Salisbury.

My Lord, *Jeddah, January* 10, 1888.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a Report on the Trade and Commerce for the Year 1887.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. S. JAGO.

Report on the Trade and Commerce of Jeddah for the Year 1888.

During the year 1887 46,020 pilgrims arrived at Jeddah, against 42,374 last year. Their nationality was as follows:— Pilgrim traffic.

British Indians	10,324
Egyptians	9,337
Turks and Syrians	6,829
Moors, Algerines, &c.	6,738
Javanese	4,968
Arabs	1,833
Yemenis	1,759
Persians	1,696
Soudanese	773
Arrived by native coasters, nationality unknown ..	1,773
	46,020

British steamers brought 46·7 per cent. of the total number, as against 53 per cent. last year; and carried away 56 per cent., as against 55 per cent. last year. Proportion brought by the British flag.

SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION.

There was a decrease of 22 British steamers, of 28,670 tons register, when compared with last year, caused (1) by deficient harvests in the Persian Gulf, and the consequent cessation of trade between it and Jeddah; and (2) by a decrease in the number of Javanese arriving for the Haj from Singapore. Shipping.

RETURN of all Shipping at the Port of Jeddah in the Year 1887.

Nationality.	Sailing.		Steam.		Total.	
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.
British	4	3,315	87	103,993	91	107,308
Turkish	751	23,745	18	15,273	769	39,018
Egyptian	...	...	61	38,371	61	38,371
Austrian	...	...	58	55,620	58	55,620
Other flags... ...	...	...	30	54,036	30	54,036
Total	755	27,060	254	267,293	1,009	294,353
,, for the year preceding	...	...	...	...	1,040	317,780

The return of vessels which cleared is not given, as it is the same as the above.

Exports.

RETURN of Principal Articles of Export from Jeddah during the Years 1887–86.

Articles.	1887.		1886.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Gum	..	30,000	..	30,000
Mother-of-pearl shells ..	..	31,000	..	32,000
Goat skins	..	5,500	..	40,000
Sheep ,, ...	Unknown ..	9,000	Unknown ..	14,000
Cow hides	..	350	..	1,500
Tortoise shell	..	900	..	900
Senna leaves	..	500	..	600
Henna	..	1,800	..	2,000
Total	..	79,150	..	121,500

The falling-off in skins and hides was caused by the best qualities being purchased at Confida and shipped direct to Aden for export, instead of, as formerly, being brought to Jeddah for sale.

Imports.

Statistics of the import trade are not procurable here, as has been before remarked. The bulk of the pilgrims this year being as usual, poor, their large numbers did not contribute to any great increase of breadstuffs or manufactures; trade in consequence has been very dull, stocks are large, and the margin of profits very small.

General remarks.

The water-works begun by public subscription three years since, to bring water into Jeddah from a natural reservoir in the adjacent hills, four hours' distance, are now completed, and public fountains have been erected in the town for the gratuitous supply of water to the inhabitants who, hitherto, have had to depend upon rain-water collected in tanks in the desert outside the walls. Beyond two slight showers, no rain has fallen here for thirteen months, although the province generally has been visited more abundantly, Medina especially having suffered much from heavy rain-storms. The quality of the water is excellent, and some improvement may be hoped for in its general unhealthiness. No system of drainage prevails however. A large cess-pool is constructed in the centre of the foundations of a house when being built,

which, when full is emptied by the simple method of digging a big hole in the street before the door, and transferring its contents to it. Thus Jeddah has become a mighty cess-pool, which, with the excessively damp heat of 90° which generally prevails, sufficiently accounts for the great mortality from fevers, which makes it the most unhealthy town on the Red Sea.

Jeddah, January 10, 1888.

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